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WAR

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GENERAL JOFFRE,
Commander-in-Chief of the French Army.
(Photo from Rogers.)

THE WAR SITUATION

Up to and Including January 17, 1915.

THE war slackened during the last week, and the chief interest in it was not military, but political. The great question was how soon Rumania would enter, and secondary to that was a question which, if there were any sign of an immediate answer, would be still more absorbing—the question of Italy's attitude. It seems to be assumed that Rumania's entrance will involve Italy's, and it seems to be generally understood that Rumania will not keep out—that she is merely awaiting the time when her entrance can be made most effective.

It is a cold-blooded way to treat of such matters, but Rumania is apparently calculating on the weather. That is to say, her advent in the military field would not be well timed if it happened in the Winter; and, therefore, it seems to be assumed on all sides that Rumania is merely waiting for Spring. It is of a piece with the cold blooded nature of the whole war, which has less of the gallantry and chivalry that have redeemed bloodshed than any war since the dawn of history. It rhymes with the assassination of dreadnoughts by submarines and the destruction of human life in mass by machine guns.

If the Balkans Enter

IF Rumania does enter the war it is hard to see how the other Balkan States can keep out for any length of time. Greece is evidently itching to get in, and Greece cannot enter without involving Bulgaria. Nor could Italy stay out with any grace if the Balkan kingdoms entered. The War of the Ten Nations may easily become the War of the Fourteen Nations by the time Spring sets in.

All of these kingdoms recognize the impending danger and are making preparations for it. Rumania is said to have mobilized already, and Italy has sent troops to the islands in the Aegean Sea, off the coast of Asia Minor. Italy's first blow would presumably be struck at Turkey, but this is by no means so sure in the case of Rumania, which is in a position to strike Germany and Austria as well.

Little as she is, Rumania has an army of half a million, and it is said to be one of the best armies in Europe. It has had no exercise. Rumania stayed out of both the Balkan wars, and her strength was used only for political purposes. While the other Balkan nations were exhausting themselves in warfare, Rumania conserved her strength and used her army only to menace the victors at the end.

She is the only Balkan State which has suffered no exhaustion. This, of course, is an argument that cuts both ways; while Rumania has not suffered the attrition that has been the lot of Serbia and Bulgaria, she has also had no opportunity to train veterans; and what that asset means has been shown within two months by Serbia's astounding defeat of Austria and reconquest of her own territory.

Montenegro is too often overlooked in the war calculations. Her territory and her army are small, but King Nicholas's men went through a baptism of fire which made them among the best soldiers in Europe; and their support of Serbia is no light matter. If Rumania joined the two Balkan States already in arms, Austria-Hungary would have to face an embattled line which would stretch all the way across her southeastern frontier from Russia to the Adriatic.

What has forced Rumania's hand has been the Russian occupation of Bukowina, an occupation apparently made for political purposes only. There seems to be no pressing military necessity for it. But to capture Bukowina was to force Rumania into the field, and the Russian armies seem to have swept through that territory for that purpose and no other. In Poland, where there really are military reasons for a campaign, the Russians have been marking time in the same way that the Allies have in northern France and Flanders.

The Offensive in Alsace

IT is curious, by the way, that when one speaks of military movements either in France or Poland it is always of the Allies that he talks. A forward movement by the Germans seems to have been tacitly passed aside, and all the talk is of what the Allies will do. Joffre is said to have placed the Germans on the defensive; but whether he has or not it is significant that no one speaks any longer of a German offensive. The significance of that fact can be appreciated when one recalls that at the outset of the war a dashing German attack was the one feature on which every one counted.

The Winter campaign has become languid everywhere except in Bukowina (where its activity is purely political) and in Alsace. Just why the French Commander in Chief sees fit to push his Alsatian campaign while relaxing his efforts in France and Flanders is one of the things that never will be explained until the war ends and its history comes to be written. Whatever the explanation may be, the fact is that in the trenches along

the Aisne and in Belgium the army of the Allies is doing little more than mark time, but that all the Winter severity has not availed to check the forward movement further to the north. They are still battling around Altkirch and Muelhausen, which were the scenes of carnage in the first weeks of the war. Steinbach has been the object of desperate fighting, too; the French lost it in the middle of December and recaptured it a week later. They have taken a strategical railroad commanding the country and have cut the line above Altkirch.

It seems as if Joffre intended to have Alsace and Lorraine so nearly in the French possession by the time Spring begins that that feature of the campaign can be discounted and he can devote all his attention to the movement against the Germans in Northern France. If that is not his object it is difficult to understand why he insists on making the vigorous campaign in Germany that he is conducting in the Winter months.

New Move on Serbia

THE Germans have been massing a new army in Austria, consisting of three army corps—at least so the Germans announce—and the object is supposed to be a new effort at the conquest of Serbia. There is, however, a report that the real object is the invasion of Western Galicia. It is generally understood that whether the purpose of the German massing is to crush Serbia or not, there will be a new attack on that devoted country within a very short time.

It is, in fact, a necessary thing for Austria to conquer Serbia whether she has support from Germany or not. In this war political reasons are at least as important as military ones, and Austria cannot afford to have her power flouted by such a small country. She has already found it a serious matter to have her armies driven out of Serbia, for the reason that she has had to face riots and possible revolution in her own territory with every fresh defeat; even cities like Budapest have shown symptoms of rebellion, and this is too great a danger for Austria to toy with. She must conquer Serbia at all hazards.

"We must desire it on political grounds," says the military expert of the Berliner Tageblatt, in speaking of the projected invasion of Serbia; and it is on political and not military grounds that the invasion will be made, if it is made at all. Yet this same expert sounds a note of caution. He says that the invasion "should not be undertaken at the expense of the forces in Galicia," and adds:

"If progress cannot be made in the Balkans without diminishing the main army it would be prudent first of all to await success in Poland."



THE HIGHWAY IN ARAGWA TALO, THE ROUTE BETWEEN RUSSIA AND TURKEY IN THE CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS OVER WHICH THE TURKS RETREATED

(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



During the Fighting in Alsace This Windmill of La Caille, Near Montreux-Vieux, Was Bombarded by the French. Nearly Two Hundred Germans Who Occupied It Were Killed.



FRENCH SOLDIERS AS SCHOOLMASTERS ARE TEACHING THE CHILDREN FRENCH IN THE REOCCUPIED VILLAGES IN ALSACE.
(Photos from Underwood & Underwood.)



A GERMAN SOLDIER WRITES A LETTER HOME AFTER ARRIVING IN LODZ.



GERMANS AT DINNER DURING A HALT IN A GROVE OF WHITE BIRCHES IN POLAND.
(Photos from Paul Thompson.)



HEAVY SERVIAN ARTILLERY IN ACTION AGAINST THE AUSTRIANS
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



GERMAN PARCEL-POST WAGON ARRIVING AT THE CHURCH POST OFFICE AT MIRUNSKEN, EAST PRUSSIA
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



A GROUP OF CAPTURED RUSSIANS IN POLAND REPRESENT FOUR DIFFERENT RACES



GERMAN STAFF OFFICER EXAMINING RUSSIAN PRISONERS IN POLAND
(Photos from Paul Thompson.)



CHATEAU OF THE RUSSIAN DUKE LEUCHTENBERG, IN SEON, BAVARIA, WHICH WAS CONFISCATED. The Duke Made His Escape Through Switzerland.
(Photo from Press Illustrating Co.)



BRINGING THE WOUNDED IN OX CARTS TO THE MISSIONARY HOSPITAL AT ERZERUM, THE ANCIENT CAPITAL OF ARMENIA.
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



Note. The sites of important battles since the middle of the 17th century shown as: + RAMILLIES 1706

(Map Reproduced by Courtesy of Leslie's.)

THE COCKPIT OF EUROPE

FOR 350 years Belgium has been the battleground of Europe. Her history has always been stormy, from the time when the Romans paid their tribute to the valor of the Belgic tribes; but the exigencies of European politics in the last three centuries and a half have made her the victim of all the great wars, whether she had any natural relation to them or not.

At the close of the war conducted by Philip II. against the Dutch Republic, Belgium enjoyed a short period of independence, but it lasted only thirty-five years; and the terms of the treaty creating her as a sovereign State provided that in case her rulers died without issue the Netherlands should revert to the Crown of Spain. This happened in 1633; and immediately the dependency began its career as the "cockpit of Europe." For France and Holland were allied, and whenever France and Spain were at war (which was frequently the case) Belgium was exposed to attack from both the north and south. French and Dutch armies alternately ravaged her. As an outlying Spanish dependency she was invariably exposed to the first attack and by no means the last, and when peace was settled the cession of some part of Belgian territory was usually one of the conditions.

When the dispute over the Spanish Succession reached the point of war, it was largely because England and Hol-

land were unwilling to let Belgium pass under the control of France; and when war broke out one of the first steps of Louis XIV. was to take the Netherlands. From that time, for many years, the Belgic provinces were again the prey of contending armies. In 1706 and 1708 Marlborough won the victories of Ramillies and Oudenarde, and drove the French from Belgic soil. This ended the Spanish control of the Netherlands, and in 1713 they passed, by the terms of the peace treaty, into the hands of Austria. Long known as the Spanish Netherlands, they were now known as the Austrian Netherlands.

This mystery was interrupted for two years in which France gained control. It occurred during the War of the Austrian Succession, in which the French conquered the country and made Marshal Saxe Governor General. But, by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748, Belgium was restored to Austria. The Seven Years' War spared her soil, and there was peace until 1790, when the Belgians rebelled against the Austrians. They were beaten down, but in two years' time Austria was again fighting for control, and this time vainly. France and Austria were at war in 1792, and the French armies immediately struck at their enemy through her weakest point, which was Belgium. The victories of Jemappes, in 1792, and Fleurus, 1794, ended Austrian rule, and by the treaty of 1797 Belgium passed into the hands of the French as an integral part of the French territory.

It was the first time she had been anything but a dependency, for the French admitted her to all the privileges of any other portion of the republic on even terms. This lasted until the fall of Napoleon. In 1815 the powers allotted Belgium to Holland and formed a new kingdom out of the two nations. In this union Holland was predominant, and Belgium felt herself a subject, although nominally they were coequal. In 1830 the Belgians revolted and drove the Dutch out of the country, except that they were still able to hold Antwerp. Here the powers intervened, and the Conference of London dissolved the relationship between Holland and Belgium.

Leopold I. was made King, but the Dutch invaded the country and routed his army. The French came to his rescue and marched on Belgian soil, and the result was that the dissolution of the partnership was finally confirmed. That was in 1831, and Belgium became independent for the first time since 1633. There has been no general war from that time until 1914, which is the only reason Belgium has enjoyed tranquillity. In 1870 the French were believed to intend violating her neutrality in their war with Germany, but the English threatened to attack any country which should do so, and both France and Germany announced their intention of respecting that neutrality. Now at last, in 1914, comes another general war, and Belgium instantly resumes the position she occupied in the war of the Spanish Succession and so many others—that of the cockpit of Europe.



GERMAN ARMY PAYMASTER AND STAFF AT THE FRONT IN NORTHERN FRANCE
(Photo from Press Illustrating Co.)



THE ARRIVAL OF A PAYMASTER IN A RUSSIAN CAMP IN POLAND
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



A RUSSIAN FRONTIER FORTRESS IN THE CAUCASUS TAKEN BY TURKS
AND SUBSEQUENTLY RECAPTURED BY THE RUSSIANS
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



FRENCH PRISONERS OF WAR TAKEN BY THE GERMANS AT ST. MIHIEL.



Woman Talking to a Prisoner in Russia While the
Jailer Stands Guard.
(Photos from Press Illustrating Co.)



A Thanksgiving Concert at the Rathaus in Berlin to
Celebrate a Defeat of the Russians.
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



A PANORAMA OF THE TOWN OF AMASIA IN ASIATIC TURKEY WITH ITS GREAT NATURAL DEFENSES WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY THE RUSSIANS BEFORE THEY REACH CONSTANTINOPLE.

(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



GERMAN AVIATORS READY FOR A BOMB-DROPPING FLIGHT IN POLAND.
(Photos from Paul Thompson.)



THE GREAT MANUFACTURING CITY OF LODZ, IN POLAND, AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE GERMAN ARMY.



THE GERMANS ENTERING LODZ ON THE MAIN THOROUGHFARE.



FRENCH SKIRMISHERS ON THE ALERT IN THE FLOODED COUNTRY OF THE YSER



ARTILLERY OFFICERS OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY WATCHING THE MOVEMENTS OF THE GERMAN FORCES
(Photo (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



FRENCH SAPPERS AT WORK ON DEFENSE WORKS IN NORTHERN FRANCE
(Photos from Underwood & Underwood.)



GERMAN HEAVY ARTILLERY BOMBARDING A RUSSIAN BATTERY AT SGIERZ, NEAR LODZ.



FUNERAL SERVICES OF GARIBALDIANS KILLED WHILE FIGHTING FOR FRANCE.
On the Same Day One of Garibaldi's Grandsons Was Killed While Leading a Bayonet Charge.
(Photo (C) by International News Service.)



SERBIAN PEASANT WOMEN LEND A HAND AT HAULING UP THE GUNS.
(Photos from Paul Thompson.)



GERMAN WOUNDED IN A FRENCH CHATEAU WHICH IS BEING
USED AS A MILITARY HOSPITAL.
(Photo from Press Illustrating Co.)



FRENCH ZOUAVES USING AN AEROPLANE GUN AGAINST A GERMAN AIR SCOUT.
(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)



GERMAN ARTILLERY ASSEMBLING DURING A SNOWSTORM BETWEEN RHEIMS AND THE ARGONNE FOREST
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



SENTRIES GUARDING AN ICE-BOUND SERVIAN CONVOY



ABANDONED FIELD ARTILLERY IN THE MOUNTAINS OF SERVIA
(Photos (C) by Underwood & Underwood.)



GERMANS ATTENDING MASS FOR THE BAVARIAN DEAD IN A FRENCH CHURCH
(Photo from Press Illustrating Co.)



INFLATING A FRENCH CAPTIVE BALLOON AT CHATEAU SEPTONNE NEAR SOISSONS
(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)



ELABORATE BARBED WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS BEFORE THE RUSSIAN TRENCHES IN POLAND
(Photo from Paul Thompson.)



SOLDIERS IN THE BEAUTIFUL RUSSIAN CHURCH AT SUWALKI, WHICH HAS REMAINED UNHARMED THROUGHOUT THE RECENT FIGHTING.

(Photos (C) by International News Service.)



A Hidden Trench in the Middle of a French Village to be Used as an Exit Passageway in Case the Advanced Trenches are Captured.

(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)



New Type of Periscope Used in the French Trenches to Observe the Movements of the Enemy from an Unexposed Position.



GEN. ARLABOSSE,
Standing in Front of His Field Hut in Eastern France.

(Photo (C) by International News Service.)



A NEW PORTRAIT OF THE
KAISERIN.

(Photos from American Press Assn.)



FLIGHT COMMANDER MARCONNAY,
A Famous French Airman Reported Killed.

(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)



THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCESS,
Who Has Been Active in Organizing the Relief
Work of the German Women.



A HORSE STANDING IN A HOLE MADE BY THE EXPLOSION OF A SHELL
ON A FRENCH BATTLEFIELD

(Photo from Press Illustrating Co.)



A GERMAN SOLDIER SHARES HIS BREAK-
FAST WITH A RUSSIAN BOY

(Photos from Paul Thompson.)



GERMANS RESTORING TELEGRAPH
WIRES DESTROYED BY THE RUS-
SIANS IN THE EASTERN AREA



THE MUSEUM AT BELGRADE BOMBARDED BY THE AUSTRIANS
AFTER THEY WERE FORCED TO EVACUATE THE CITY.

(Photo from Underwood & Underwood.)

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KING PETER AND THE SERBIAN GENERAL STAFF WHOSE SUCCESSFUL DEFENSIVE CAMPAIGN AGAINST AUSTRIA HAS BEEN ONE OF THE WAR'S GREATEST SURPRISES.

(Photo (C) by American Press Assn.)